Executive Director's Address

NINILCHIK TRADITIONAL COUNCIL

GOVERNING BODY OF THE NINILCHIK VILLAGE TRIBE

AFN Convention Report! I was unanimously re-elected as the AFN Board representative for the Cook Inlet Villages during their caucus for this coming year. What is more important however, was the Cook Inlet Region caucus. This was the first time that I can recall that CIRI, CITC and the Cook Inlet Villages came together with a decision to oppose Regionalization. This was a very positive and optimistic step and I hope it will continue into the future.

New NTC Board Members! At the NTC 2004 Annual Meeting, it was announced that Michelle Steik and David Cooper Jr. will be replacing seats made vacant by Bruce Oskolkoff and Doris Kelly. I am very sorry to see both Bruce and Doris go, as they have been wonderful Board members and I hope they still come participate in the Regular Council Meetings. However, I am very pleased to see some fresh faces on the Council who will have new ideas and positive directions for this organization to move forward. Congratulations to Michelle and David!

NTC Constitutional Amendment regarding Voter Eligibility! Also on the NTC Voting ballot this year was whether or not the voting membership wanted to amend the NTC Constitution with regards to NTC voter eligibility. This vote was passed and is now in the hands of the NTC attorney to develop the appropriate election ordinance that will come in line with the new constitutional change. As a reminder, if you are a lineal descendant from an original Ninilchik Native, and live within the State of Alaska and 18 years or older, you are eligible to register to vote in NTC elections. Other Alaska Natives/American Indians who live within NTC Tribal Boundaries and were enrolled to NTC and had voting status, have been grandfathered in to retain their voting status. Keep in mind that in order to run for the Council you must still reside within tribal boundaries.

AITC Annual Convention! This month I attended the annual Alaska Inter Tribal Council convention. The convention was positive with tribes still being cautious regarding Senator Steven's comments about abandoning the concept of regionalization. One of the most interesting parts of the forum was hearing from three of the commissioners who are serving on the Rural Justice and Law Enforcement commission. Based on their testimony it doesn't appear that a uniform system of law enforcement will be recommended and that is good news.

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Regular Council Meeting Highlights—November 10th, 2004

- The council met with representatives of UNOCAL which included Charles Pierce, Kevin Tabler and Roxanne Sinz. This was an excellent time to ask questions and discuss the resource management agreement and NTC's role as the resource manager.
- The FY 05 Admin Budget was adopted along with the 3rd Party revenue budget.
- Updates were given regarding the hunting and fishing proposals that NTC submitted along with additional information on the clinic expansion progress and HC5.
- Viola Hansen was reappointed to the Tribal Court and I was selected to represent NTC at the annual AITC convention.
- Discussion on the Emergency Services Building and their driveway and water problem issues ensued and it was agreed that NTC should try and do something with the parking lot to connect the EMS and Clinic Roads as requested by Ninilchik EMS representatives.
- The NTC Elders notes were reviewed and their recommendations on the moose program will be forwarded to the committee that will be reviewing the proxy hunting applications.
- The Covey office building we are renting here was discussed as it is for sale. NTC still has a lease and is renewing it through June 2007 as allowed in our lease agreement.

Ivan Encelewski **Executive Director**

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